## From-MCGUIREWOODS LLP

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

T. Coleman, et al.

Serial No.: 09/495,947

Group Art Unit: 1633

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Examiner: Drabik, C.

For: ADVANCED ANTIGEN PRESENTATION PLATFORM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims 24-29:

24. A composition comprising

duck HBcAg; and,

a hapten, said hapten being associated with said duck HBcAg.

25. The composition of claim 24 wherein said duck HBcAg is assembled into a particle.

26. The composition of claim 24 wherein said hapten is a carbohydrate.

27. The composition of claim 24 wherein said hapten is proteinaceous.